

REMARKS

Claims 1-29 are currently pending in the subject application, and are presently under consideration. Claims 15-21 are allowed. Claims 1, 4-14 and 22-28 are rejected. Claims 1, 2, 5, 14, 22, 24, and 26-28 have been amended. Claims 3, 23 and 29 have been cancelled. Favorable reconsideration of the application is requested in view of the amendments and comments herein.

The Examiner's indication that claims 2, 3 and 29 contain allowable matter is acknowledged with appreciation. Claim 1 has been amended to include the elements recited in claim 3. Claims 2 and 4 – 14 depend from claim 1, and are thus allowable for at least the elements presented in claim 1, as amended. Claim 22 has been amended to incorporate the elements recited in claim 29. Claims 24 – 28 are thus allowable for at least the elements presented in claim 22, as amended. It is thus respectfully submitted that the application is in condition for allowance.

Serial No. 10/706,723

Docket No. NG(ST)6757



CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing remarks, Applicant respectfully submits that the present application is in condition for allowance. Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of this application and that the application be passed to issue.

Please charge any deficiency or credit any overpayment in the fees for this amendment to our Deposit Account No. 20-0090.

Respectfully submitted,

Date 7/1/04

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